

MINUTES OF THE  
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

March 12, 1997  
MAG Office Building  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Stephen S. Cleveland, Goodyear, Chairman	Jim Siket, Paradise Valley
Ruben Duran for Carlos Palma, Avondale	Peter Harvey, Peoria
Delbert Self, Buckeye	Frank Fairbanks, Phoenix
*Jon Pearson, Carefree	Scot Rigby for Cynthia Seelhammer, Queen Creek
*Larry Paine, Cave Creek	David Easchief, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Patrick McDermott for Lloyd Harrell, Chandler	Ray Garrison for Dick Bowers, Scottsdale
J.R. Johnson, El Mirage	Mike Branham for Dick McComb, Surprise
Gary Jeppson for Paul Nordin, Fountain Hills	Dave Brown for Gary Brown, Tempe
David Howard, Gila Bend	Ralph Velez, Tolleson
Urban Giff, Gila River Indian Community	David Siegel, Wickenburg
Kent Cooper, Gilbert	*Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown
Martin Vanacour, Glendale	Tom Buick for David Smith, Maricopa County
Enrique Serna, Guadalupe	Victor Mendez for Larry Bonine, ADOT
Horatio Skeete for Robert Musselwhite, Litchfield Park	Ken Driggs, RPTA
Mike Hutchinson for Charles Luster, Mesa	

\*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Wm. C. "Blue" Crowley	Lindy Bauer, MAG
Vivian Valle, C.O.S.T.S.	Jim Huling, Tempe
Jane Karl	Chuck Eaton, ADOT
Mark Murrey, MCDOT	LaMar Shelley, MAG
Mike Danson, MCDOT	Lisa Takata, Phoenix
Judi Hamilton, PIR	Stuart Goodman, Glendale
Chris Plumb, MCDOT	Lee Albertson, ADOT
Doug Eberhart, MAGTPO	Roger Herzog, MAGTPO
Debbie Kohn, Avondale	Chip Mandela, MAGTPO
Peggy Carpenter, Scottsdale	John Farry, MAGTPO
Jim Rees, AZ Multihousing Association	Carol Kratz, MAG
Eric Anderson, MAG	Norris Nordvold, Phoenix
Harry Wolfe, MAGTPO	Maura Finnerty, MAG
Barbara Carpenter, MAG	Dennis Smith, MAG
Terry Johnson, MAGTPO	James M. Bourey, MAG

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephen Cleveland at 12:15 p.m. Chairman Cleveland introduced the following proxies: Patrick McDermott for the City of Chandler, Gary Jeppson for the Town of Fountain Hills, Horatio Skeete for the City of Litchfield Park, Scot Rigby for the Town of Queen Creek, and Ray Garrison for the City of Scottsdale.

2. Approval of February 11, 1997 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Branham moved, Mr. Fairbanks seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the February 11, 1997 Management Committee meeting.

3. Call to the Audience

Blue Crowley presented his concerns regarding the lack of progress in developing transit projects in the region. He expressed concern that individual cities are pursuing citywide sales tax initiative for transit rather than pursuing a region wide effort.

4. Executive Director's Report

James Bourey explained that this is a new item on the agenda designed to give the Management Committee a monthly update on MAG's activities. He provided a brief update on the development of the FY 1998 budget and his evaluation of the agency's staffing levels. He also noted that he plans to conduct a classification and compensation survey in FY 1998. The planned consolidation of MAG staff at one location, the proposed office location, and the work needed to have MAG operating as an independent entity were also discussed.

In discussing the new office location, members of the public expressed concern about access to parking facilities and access to transit facilities.

Mr. Fairbanks, Mr. Vanacour and Mr. Branham offered their assistance with the proposed classification and compensation survey.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Comments from Blue Crowley were received regarding agenda items 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11. On all these items, the focus of Mr. Crowley's concerns was that not enough emphasis was being placed on transit, bicycle and pedestrian projects in MAG's transportation programs.

Mr. Branham moved, Mr. Vanacour seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve all the items on the consent agenda.

6. Recommendations to the Arizona Department of Transportation for the FTA Elderly & Persons with Disabilities Program

The Management Committee recommended by consent, forwarding the priority listing of FTA Elderly & Persons with Disabilities Transportation Program applications to the Arizona Department of Transportation. The priority list was developed by the MAG FTA Elderly & Persons with Disabilities Transportation Ad Hoc Committee. This year, 13 applications for 14 capital assistance awards were received and considered by the committee.

7. Request to Amend the FY 1997-2001 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Management Committee recommended by consent approving of an amendment to the FY 1997-2001 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This amendment allocates federal bridge replacement funds to replace the City of Phoenix's bridge at 7th Avenue at the Western Canal. It also funds five federally funded Enhancement Fund projects including: 1) the City of Phoenix Cave Creek Wash multi-modal path; 2) the City of Tempe West 5th Street multi-modal facilities; 3) the Maricopa County Bush Highway bike lanes; 4) the City of Phoenix Central Avenue Art Walk; and 5) the Arizona State University Electronic Archives - Hohokam Villages.

8. Conformity Consultation on Rescheduled ADOT Freeway Construction Projects

The Management Committee by consent considered results of the regional emissions analysis that MAG conducted to assess the conformity impacts of advancing construction on four freeway projects on the Aqua Fria Freeway and the Pima Freeway. This analysis was conducted at the request of the Arizona Department of Transportation. Results of this analysis indicated that the regional conformity emission criteria will be met for these projects.

9. FY 1997-2001 MAG Transportation Improvement Program Amendment and Conformity Findings for Rescheduled Freeway Project

The Management Committee by consent recommended approving an amendment to the FY 1997-2001 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and a related draft conformity finding that would advance construction of the Price Freeway. The TIP amendment would advance construction of the Price Freeway between Warner Road and Frye Road. This project, based on the MAG air quality emission analysis, will have no impact on the air quality modeling results upon which the conformity findings for the FY 1997-2001 TIP are based.

10. Interagency Consultation: Potential Regionally Significant Projects for the 1997 Conformity Analysis

The Management Committee by consent considered a list of potential projects in the draft FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) considered to be regionally significant. A listing was developed by MAG indicating the projects from the Draft FY 1998-2002 MAG TIP that potentially would be considered regionally significant for conformity purposes. This project list was developed by MAG for conformity purposes.

11. Interagency Consultation: Process Pertaining to Transportation Conformity Analysis

The Management Committee by consent considered updated processes that MAG will use in conducting conformity analysis for the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan (1997 Update) and the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). These processes include: selection of modeling methods; identification of exempt projects; insurance of expeditious transportation control measure implementation; and identification of projects needing PM-10 hotspot analysis. These processes are being reviewed pursuant to federal and state conformity regulations.

12. Draft July 1, 1995 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates

The Management Committee by consent recommended approving of the July 1, 1995 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates. This information is developed for use by the Arizona Department of Water Resources in assessing municipal compliance with per capita water use targets.

13. MAG Fiscal Analysis Unit Annual Report

The Management Committee reviewed the findings of the 1997 Annual Report on the MAG Freeway & Expressway Program. This state-required report provides an update on the regional freeway system, and provides information about programming responsibilities, significant events of 1997 and a fiscal status report. Eric Anderson highlighted the report's key findings including: adoption of revised and extended priorities for the freeway program; improvements in ADOT's sales tax revenue forecasting; and the introduction of new financing techniques. He also discussed the status of the freeway program's funding and program costs.

Victor Mendez indicated that ADOT concurs with the findings of this report and indicated that ADOT will be working to implement the report's recommendations to insure successful delivery of the MAG Freeway and Expressway Program.

14. FY 1997 MAG Mid-Phase Public Involvement Report

The Management Committee recommended acceptance of the FY 1997 Mid Phase Public Input Opportunity Report. This report documents the public outreach process that has been conducted in conjunction with the 1997 update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan and the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. John Farry described the outreach process explaining that it consisted of two open houses and a public hearing. He described the efforts made to notify and involve the public of these meeting. He also explained that the public comments received during this process were incorporated into the FY 1997 Mid Phase Public Input Opportunity Report.

In receiving public comment on this item, staff noted that Dianne Barker had asked that her comments from the February 26, 1997 public hearing be included in the public record. Her comments focused on concerns that the RPTA was inappropriately using federal funds to finance its lobbying activities. Chairman Cleveland asked if this question had been investigated. Dennis Smith explained that the RPTA's legal counsel had indicated that local sales tax revenues were being utilized, and that there were no similar use restrictions on these local funds.

Blue Crowley expressed his concerns about the time limit provided for public comment. He also indicated that this public process was not in compliance with ISTEA regulation because it did not allow 30 days to include comments. He indicated that there were no public comment cards at the public hearing that he attended. Furthermore, he expressed concern that the FY 1997 Mid Phase Public Input Opportunity Report did not include all the public comments that had been received.

The Management Committee initially deferred recommending any action on this item until Mr. Crowley's concerns regarding the inclusion of public comments in the report could be addressed. Later in the meeting, on a motion put forward by Mr. Fairbanks and seconded by Mr. Branham, the Committee unanimously agreed to reconsider this item. Mr. Fairbanks moved, Mr. Vanacour seconded, and it was unanimously recommended to accept the FY 1997 Mid Phase Public Involvement Report with the caveat that the additional comments received at today's meeting be incorporated into the report.

15. MAG Federal Funding: Draft FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Chip Mandela explained that 50 project applications, totaling \$48.4 million, were submitted for consideration to utilize \$10.4 million of forecasted MAG CMAQ federal funds. The 50 projects were rated using the Congestion Management System Rating System and the Air Quality Rating System, and then presented to the MAG Technical Advisory Committees for consideration. The Transportation Review Committee recommended including two street projects, one bicycle project and one pedestrian project for MAG CMAQ funding in FY 2001, and recommended not programming the forecasted FY 2002 MAG CMAQ federal funds. The recommended projects include: Glendale - computer signalization for \$938,000; Mesa - turn lanes on County Club to US 60 for \$1,226,000; Phoenix - the 23rd Avenue bicycle bridge at Grand Canal for \$94,300; Guadalupe - pedestrian sidewalks on Avenida Del Yaqui from Guadalupe Road to Calle Carmen for \$187,000.

Comments from the public were received from Blue Crowley. Concern was expressed that funds were not adequately allocated to pedestrian, bicycle and transit projects, and it was noted that this violates the intermodal requirements of ISTEA.

Mr. McDermott moved, Mr. Hutchinson seconded, and it was unanimously recommended to include the MAG federally funded projects, as recommended by the Transportation Review Committee, in the Draft FY 1998-2002 MAG TIP for an air quality conformity analysis.

16. Conformity Analysis of the Draft FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Management Committee recommended approval to authorize a conformity analysis of the Draft FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Program (TIP). Because of time constraints, no staff presentation was provided.

Comments from the public were received from Blue Crowley. He complained that the staff reports should not be deferred because these presentations can be beneficial. Vivian Valle concurred that staff presentations were important.

Mr. Branham moved, Mr. Fairbanks seconded, and it was unanimously recommended to authorize a conformity analysis of the Draft FY 1998-2002 MAG TIP.

17. Conformity Analysis of the Draft 1997 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan

The Management Committee recommended approval to authorize a conformity analysis of the Draft 1997 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan (LRPT). Because of time constraints, no staff presentation was provided.

Comments from the public were received from Blue Crowley. He expressed concern that there are no bicycle/pedestrian projects and limited transit projects in the LRPT.

As an aside, Mr. Driggs discussed efforts underway in Washington, D.C. to secure federal funding for the region's fixed guideway project. He expressed his appreciation to the various agencies and individuals who have been working on this effort.

Mr. McDermott moved, Mr. Hutchinson seconded, and it was unanimously recommended to forward to authorize a conformity analysis of the Draft 1997 Update of the MAG LRTP.

18. Preliminary Close-Out of the FY 1997 MAG Federal-Funded Program & Related Adjustments to the FY 1997-2001 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Management Committee recommended approval to provide FY 1997 funding for the following projects: \$94,300 (CMAQ) for the Chandler Mesquite Street bike lanes; \$399,600 (STP) for the Guadalupe Avenida del Yaqui street improvements; \$1,196,000 (CMAQ) for transit projects; \$300,000 (STP) for MAG relocation expenses; and \$2,627,000 for the Maricopa County 116th Avenue Bridge project at the Gila River. Further, the Management Committee recommended amending the FY 1997-2001 MAG TIP to include these projects in FY 1997. Because of time constraints, no staff presentation was made.

Comments from the public were received from Blue Crowley. He expressed concern that \$8.1 million is not a sufficient amount to be spending on bicycle and pedestrian projects. He also indicated that all major arterial upgrade projects should include bike lanes.

Mr. Harvey moved, Mr. Fairbanks seconded, and it was unanimously recommended to provide FY 1997 funding for the following projects: \$94,300 (CMAQ) for the Chandler Mesquite Street bike lanes; \$399,600 (STP) for the Guadalupe Avenida Del Yaqui Street improvements; \$1,196,000 (CMAQ) for transit projects; \$300,000 for MAG relocation expenses; and \$2,627,000 for the Maricopa County 116th Avenue bridge project at the Gila River, and to authorize amendment of the FY 1997-2001 MAG TIP to include these projects in FY 1997.

19. Requested Changes to the MAG Freeway Program

The Management Committee considered a recommendation to approve changes to the MAG Freeway Program. These changes, requested by the Arizona Department of Transportation, include: advancement of right-of-way to meet new construction schedules; cost increases and scope of work changes mostly for right-of-way and construction; the addition of four new small projects; the deletion of two projects that have been incorporated elsewhere in the program; and deferral of two projects to FY 1998. Because of time constraints, no staff presentation was made.

Mr. Driggs mentioned the status of state legislation that would provide additional transit funding to the region.

Mr. Fairbanks moved, Mr. Brown seconded, and it was unanimously recommended to approve the requested changes to the MAG Regional Freeway System.

20. Update on Management Committee Retreat

The Management Committee agreed that a follow-up retreat should be scheduled to identify possible strategies for addressing the issues raised at the Management Committee's December 13, 1996 retreat. Committee members agreed to provide staff with information regarding their ability to attend this retreat by March 17, 1997.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

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Chairman

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